



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Proposed Bill No. 108

LCO No. 603

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Aging

Introduced by:
SEN. DOYLE, 9th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE NURSING HOME FACILITY PATIENTS'
BILL OF RIGHTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That section 19a-550 of the general statutes be amended to provide
2 that: (1) The rights prescribed in the patients' bill of rights are
3 inalienable and may not be reduced, rescinded or abrogated by
4 contract; and (2) any facility that fails to comply with any provision of
5 said section with respect to any patient shall be liable to such patient in
6 a private cause of action for damages in an amount equal to the sum of
7 (A) any actual damage sustained by such patient as a result of such
8 failure, (B) such additional damages as the court may allow, not to
9 exceed one thousand dollars, and (C) in the case of any successful
10 cause of action to enforce liability under the provisions of this section,
11 the costs of the action and reasonable attorney's fees as determined by
12 the court.

Statement of Purpose:

To strengthen the protections afforded under the nursing home facility patients' bill of rights.